

1825 STRAND WAY CORONADO, CA 92118

CITY HALL (619) 522-7320

August 29, 2002

Chairman Getman Commissioners Downey, Knox and Swanson Fair Political Practices Commission P. O. Box 807 Sacramento, CA 95812

Re: September 5, 2002 Commission Meeting - Item #15

Dear Honorable Chairman and Commissioners:

I have just learned that all State agencies must submit a plan to cut their expenditures by 20% in fiscal year 2003-04. I understand that you will be considering this topic at your September 5th meeting. As I am unable to attend, I am submitting this letter and respectfully ask that you take into consideration my comments during your decision making process.

I am the City Clerk for the City of Coronado and have been with this City for 12 years. As the filing officer for campaign statements, as well as Statements of Economic Interest for designated employees, I have had several occasions to contact the FPPC staff for assistance. Let me highlight a few areas where I feel reduction in services would have greatly impacted me in my capacity as the filing officer.

In February 2002, I was fortunate enough to have a consultant from FPPC visit our City to review FPPC regulations. As a new City Clerk, their help in explaining the regulations and reviewing the numerous forms was invaluable. The assistance and guidance provided by your staff was extremely helpful and certainly helped to guide me through what seemed to be a very complicated filing process.

Just two weeks ago I attended a Candidate and Treasurers Workshop. The information provided was invaluable to all those attended, including many city clerks. Most candidates have no idea what their responsibilities are relating to campaign finance disclosure. I heard many positive comments and the group was genuinely thankful for having had this information provided to them in a clear and concise manner. Based on my own experience, I will strongly encourage all candidates and treasurers to attend.

## Hotline:

In this election period, I have had several occasions to call the hotline for advice. The toll-free number and technical assistance advice line has been a very valuable resource for me. I am appreciative that the calls are responded to promptly and that I can obtain accurate advice. The candidates have also had to call to clarify their particular issues and get information to better file the appropriate information with the FPPC.

Your task of making cuts to an already lean budget is one that is most arduous. The services now provided by the FPPC are exemplary and you and your staff are to be commended for the excellent services provided. I respectfully request that you please consider the importance of your mission and in the services provided to this state. I urge you to please preserve the integrity of the Political Reform Act with the services intact as they are functioning today.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

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Sincerely,

L. Diane Shea City Clerk